



# NRC NEWS

**U. S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**

Office of Public Affairs

Telephone 301/415-820

Washington, DC 20555-0001

E-mail: opa@nrc.gov

Web Site: [www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov)

---

No. 03-058

May 8, 2003

## **NRC LICENSING BOARD TO HEAR ORAL ARGUMENTS MAY 19 IN CALIFORNIA ON DIABLO CANYON PROPOSAL**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB) will hear statements May 19 in San Luis Obispo, California, from parties and interested governmental participants admitted to a hearing concerning the application of Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) for permission to construct and operate an independent spent fuel storage installation (ISFSI) at its Diablo Canyon Power Plant site near San Luis Obispo.

The statements, which will be in the form of oral arguments, will focus on whether further evidentiary hearing sessions are needed to resolve the admitted issue of whether PG&E, which is in bankruptcy, is financially qualified to construct and operate the proposed ISFSI. The arguments will be heard beginning at 9:00 a.m. PDT at the Embassy Suites Hotel, San Luis Obispo Room, 333 Madonna Road, San Luis Obispo.

Parties to the hearing include (1) San Luis Obispo Mothers for Peace (which is acting as lead intervenor), (2) Peg Pinard, (3) the Avila Valley Advisory Council, (4) the Central Coast Peace and Environmental Council, (5) San Luis Obispo Cancer Action Now, and (6) the Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club.

The California Energy Commission, the California Public Utilities Commission, the Avila Beach Community Services District and San Luis Obispo County also have been granted permission to participate as interested governmental entities, as allowed by NRC regulations. Other parties eligible to participate are the applicant, PG&E, and the NRC staff.

Licensing Board members are G. Paul Bollwerk, III, Chairman, Dr. Jerry R. Kline, and Dr. Peter S. Lam.

Members of the public may attend the May 19 session as observers only. They were offered an opportunity to make oral presentations at earlier sessions, held in San Luis Obispo in March. Additionally, any person not a party to the proceeding may submit a written statement setting forth his or her position on the issues in this proceeding at any time. Such statements should be submitted by regular mail to the Office of the Secretary, Rulemakings and

Adjudications Staff, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001, with a copy to Administrative Judge G. Paul Bollwerk, III, Atomic Safety and Licensing Board Panel, Mail Stop T-3F23, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, D.C. 20555-0001. These statements may assist the Board or parties in their consideration of the issues in the proceeding.

###